

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-17 are presently pending in this application, Claims 1, 16 and 17 having been amended by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over McKenna (U.S. 5,448,607) in view of Tybinkowski et al. (U.S. Patent 5,982,844A).

First, Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the courtesy of a personal interview granted to Applicant's attorney on May 6, 2003. During the interview, the outstanding issues were discussed and arguments in support of the claims' patentability were presented. In particular, it was pointed out *inter alia* that McKenna only discloses the gantry displacement mechanism 70 whose rod member 80 is partially shown from the upper portion of the wall members 20, 22. As a result, the Examiner indicated that the outstanding rejections would be overcome if the independent claims were amended to further specify the location of the electric member so as to lower the gantry's center of gravity as described in the specification, for example, a substantial portion of the electrical member being below a certain height as seen from Figure 5. Therefore, Claim 1 has been amended to recite "at least one electric member positioned in at least one of spaces surrounded by said base, main posts and props such that at least a substantial portion of the at least one electric member is disposed in a lower half portion of a respective one of the spaces ...," and Claim 16 has been amended to recite "at least one electric member positioned in at least one of spaces surrounded by said base, main posts and reinforce members such that at least a substantial portion of the at least one electric member is disposed in a lower half portion of a respective one of the spaces"

Also, as discussed during the interview, Figure 5 has been amended to show a reference line for the relative positions of the electric members in the triangle spaces. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-16 are believed to overcome the outstanding rejections.

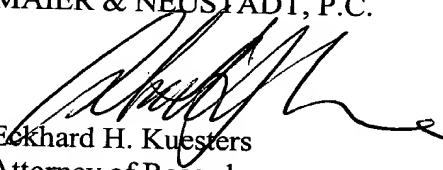
If, however, the Examiner disagrees with any of the amendments presented above, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned who will be happy to work in a joint effort to derive a mutually agreeable solution and expedite the prosecution of this application.

With regard to Claim 17, Claim 17 recites “a plurality of triangle *blocks* positioned between said main posts and configured to reinforce said main posts under the rotation ring” (emphasis added in *Italic*), and thus the structure recited in Claim 17 not only reinforces the main posts under the rotation ring but also effectively lowers the gantry’s center of gravity. However, neither McKenna nor Tybinkowski et al. are believed to disclose or suggest the plurality of triangle blocks as recited in Claim 17. Hence, the structure recited in Claim 17 is also believed to be distinguishable over McKenna and Tybinkowski et al. and allowable.

In light of the discussions held during the interview and in view of the amendments and discussions presented above, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early action favorable to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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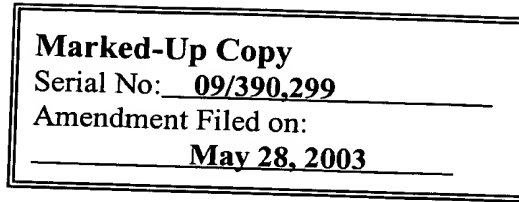
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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 16 and 17 as follows:

- 1. (Five Times Amended) A gantry of an X-ray computer tomography apparatus comprising:
- an X-ray tube;
 - an X-ray detector;
 - a rotation ring mounting said X-ray tube and said X-ray detector;
 - a ring frame rotatably supporting said rotation ring;
 - a base;
 - a plurality of main posts vertically mounted on said base and supporting said ring frame such that said rotation ring is positioned between said main posts;
 - a plurality of props extending obliquely between said main posts for reinforcing said main posts under the rotation ring; and
 - at least one electric member positioned in [a space] at least one of spaces surrounded by said base, main posts and props such that at least a substantial portion of the at least one electric member is disposed in a lower half portion of a respective one of the spaces, said at least one electric member including at least one of a power source unit configured to generate driver power to rotate said rotation ring and tilt said ring frame, a scan control unit configured to control a rotating operation of said rotation ring and a detecting operation of said X-ray detector, and a transmission unit configured to externally output a signal detected by said X-ray detector.

16. (Five Times Amended) A gantry of an X-ray computer tomography apparatus comprising:

an X-ray tube;

an X-ray detector;

a rotation ring mounting said X-ray tube and said X-ray detector;

a ring frame rotatably supporting said rotation ring;

a base;

a plurality of main posts vertically mounted on said base and supporting said ring frame such that said rotation ring is positioned between said main posts; [and]

a plurality of reinforce members positioned between said main posts for reinforcing said main posts under the rotation ring; and

at least one electric member positioned in [a space] at least one of spaces surrounded by said base, main posts and reinforce members such that at least a substantial portion of the at least one electric member is disposed in a lower half portion of a respective one of the spaces, said at least one electric member including at least one of a power source unit configured to generate driver power to rotate said rotation ring and tilt said ring frame, a scan control unit configured to control a rotating operation of said rotation ring and a detecting operation of said X-ray detector, and a transmission unit configured to externally output a signal detected by said X-ray detector.

17. (Five Times Amended) A gantry of an X-ray computer tomography apparatus comprising:

an X-ray tube;

an X-ray detector;

a rotation ring mounting said X-ray tube and said X-ray detector;

a ring frame rotatably supporting said rotation ring;

a base;

a plurality of main posts vertically mounted on said base and supporting said ring frame such that said rotation ring is positioned between said main posts; and

a plurality of triangle blocks positioned between said main posts and configured to reinforce said main posts under the rotation ring[; and

at least one electric member positioned in a space surrounded by said base, main posts and triangle blocks, said at least one electric member including at least one of a power source unit configured to generate driver power to rotate said rotation ring and tilt said ring frame, a scan control unit configured to control a rotating operation of said rotation ring and a detecting operation of said X-ray detector, and a transmission unit configured to externally output a signal detected by said X-ray detector].--